



Bulletin

International Association for Landscape Ecology

UPCOMING ELECTION OF IALE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (2015-2019)

The following candidates for positions in the IALE-Executive Committee are nominated for the term 2015-2019. You can find short CVs and mission statements of each candidate inside this Bulletin.

A web-based voting procedure will be distributed to all current IALE-members in good standing by e-mail shortly before 15 May 2015. The election will conclude on 15 June 2015. The new executive committee will take position during the 9th IALE World Congress in Portland (July 5-10, 2015).

Nominated are:

President: Christine Fürst (IALE Germany)

Vice Presidents (2 positions):
Henry Bulley (IALE USA & IALE Africa),
Andreas Christensen (IALE Denmark)
Sima Fakheran (IALE Iran),
Richard Smithers (IALE UK),

Secretary-General: Thomas C. Edwards (IALE USA)

Treasurer (1 position):
Irene Petrosillo (IALE Italy),
Mihai Sorin Stupariu (IALE Romania),

Bulletin Editor and Deputy Secretary General:
Benjamin Burkhard (IALE Germany)

Candidates for the same position are listed in alphabetical order. Two vice-presidents elected in 2013, Robert M. Scheller (IALE USA) and Liding Chen (IALE China), will serve on the new Executive Committee until 2017.

According to the statutes you still have the possibility to suggest your own write-in candidates for the election. Write-in candidates will be added to the list of candidates on the voting ballot and announced through the Web Page. You should forward proposed write-in candidates to the Secretary-General Thomas Edwards (t.edwards@usu.edu) before 15 April 2015.

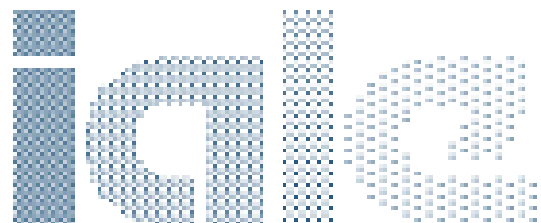
To be valid, the proposed Executive Committee position for the write-in candidate should be clearly indicated, and there must be an acceptance of nomination from the candidate.

Deadlines:

15 April 2015: Nominations of additional write-in candidates in the hands of the Secretary-General (t.edwards@usu.edu)

15 May – 15 June 2015: Web-based election
After 15 June 2015: Results announced through the IALE Bulletin, the webpage, and at the 2015 IALE World Congress, Portland, OR.

By the IALE International nomination committee:
Xiuzhen Li, K Bruce Jones, Emilio Padoaschioppa, Richard Smithers and Guillermo Martinez Pastur



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CANDIDATES' CVS AND MISSION STATEMENTS

Nomination for President:

Christine Fürst

Center for Development Research, Bonn University, Germany

Biography

Currently I am Senior Researcher at the Center for Development Research and Private Docent at the Agricultural Faculty, University of Bonn, Germany. My background is forest sciences with specialization in soil sciences and I focused in my habilitation on integrated land use planning. My research addresses the simulation and integrated assessment of land use change and land system adaptation to climate change. More specifically, I am researching on land systems in West-Africa, South-America and Europe and how to integrate manifold knowledge sources and participatory processes in estimating potential futures of socio-ecological systems. I am highly interested in exploring land systems resilience related to the functioning of key ecological processes and the sustainable provision of ecosystem services.

I am member of IALE Germany and currently involved in further developing the IALE Africa chapter. My high interest in integrative land systems research guided me to funding in 2011 the European Land-use Institute with currently 70 members in 21 countries that cooperate on enhancing inter- and transdisciplinarity in land use planning and sustainable resource management as a relevant aspect in transferring the principles of landscape ecology to practical decision making. The European Land-use Institute organizes since 2011 a series of conferences on regional resources management with the aim to facilitate interdisciplinary cooperation in publishing and research independently from projects. Based upon this activity, ELI started in 2012 to act as European Nodal Office of the Global Land Project to connect European and international landscape research. Starting from this partnership, we funded in 2013 the journal *Change and Adaptation in Socio-Ecological Systems* (CASES, de Gruyter) to provide a forum for running research, critical discussion and reporting on lessons learnt in

land system research. I am also editorial member in *Ecological Indicators* and *International Journal of Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services & Management* to serve the scientific community.

I am steering committee member in the Ecosystem Service Partnership and started most recently as expert for scoping regional studies in the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. My motivation for the participation in such different networks is to contribute to connect different science communities, to build a bridge between basic and applied research in landscape ecology and to support the transfer of the research outcomes in policy processes.

My publication record consists of more than 100 scientific papers of which more than 40 are in peer-reviewed and internationally acknowledged journals or book series covering a broad range of aspects in socio-ecological system research.

Mission statement

Landscape Ecology provides the irreplaceable scientific frame to understand, consult and guide the sustainable development of land systems in a world of change. IALE is therefore serving society in indispensable manner by bundling essential approaches and knowledge on landscape ecological processes and functioning. These form the basis for all other research on land use change, and its impact on the provision of public goods and ecosystem services.

As a president of IALE, I aim at enhancing the awareness of the scientific community, but also of policy makers and research funders on the outstanding value of landscape ecology research. I wish to contribute to increase the communication and connect IALE in complementary manner with different networks such as ESP and processes such as IPBES that base their work on landscape ecological fundamentals.

An important objective for me is to attract and involve more intensively young scientists in IALE events and related publications to support their active participation in shaping the future of research in landscape ecology. I feel also dedicated to support developing countries especially in Africa in becoming involved in IALE and contribute with their experiences to widen our view and understanding of interactions between human beings and nature in the landscape context.

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I understand the role of the president as an initiator, moderator and facilitator of communication and cooperation building processes in IALE to strengthen its unique science community, to enhance the active co-design of the profile of IALE international and raise its public visibility. My vision is therefore to assist in building and further developing regional and strong national chapters and their intra- and intercontinental exchange and collaboration.

Nomination for Vice President:

Henry Nii Nmai Bulley

Geography and GIScience BMCC, City University of New York, USA

Biography

My background is in the applications of Geospatial Science, machine learning techniques, and Landscape Ecology to water resource assessments. My research interest is in understanding the interactions between anthropological land use dynamics and the natural environment with a focus on sustainable water ecosystem services. This research interest follows two concurrent tracks. First is integration of GIS and remote sensing with spatial modeling and machine learning algorithms to improve land use classification. Secondly, it involves the integration of landscape metrics with geospatial modeling to assess inland water bodies and their watersheds.

Being a native of Ghana in West Africa, I have an outreach interest to facilitate the adoption of geospatial science and landscape ecology principles for assessing ecosystems services to support sustainable development in Africa. I have been a member of IALE since the 1999 IALE World Congress in Snowmass, and a founding chair of the Africa Regional Chapter of IALE following the 2002 US IALE meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska. Since then, I have organized special sessions on "Landscapes of Africa" during the 2003 and 2007 IALE Congresses. I also co-organized a symposium on Landscape Ecology and Geospatial Science for Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation in Developing Countries at the 2008 US-IALE meeting in Madison, WI. Currently, I am co-organizing a Symposium on Prospects of Geo-

spatial Technologies and Landscape Sustainability in Africa (with the option of live-webcast for colleagues in Africa), as well as a preconference workshop on Modeling landscape change and ecosystem services at the upcoming 2015 IALE World Congress.

As interim chair of the Africa Chapter of IALE, I am currently leading efforts to leverage Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to bridge the gap between scientific research (Geospatial Science and Landscape Ecology) and Resource Managers (extension agents, policy makers, community organizers, etc.) in order to enhance the provision of Ecosystems Services for sustainable livelihood. These efforts include publicizing IALE and mobilizing African scientists to join. I have organized successful Landscape Ecology webinar series in 2013, and Guest Editor of special issue on Africa Landscape Ecology journal. Other works include coordinating efforts to introduce Landscape Ecology Curriculum in African Universities. I have also promoted the application and testing of usability of the USGS Ecosystems dataset on Africa, by the IALE Africa Community.

Position statement

One of the key mission statements of IALE, is making landscape ecology science and integrative tools "applicable to real landscape situations and applying them in solving problems." I see this reflected in my outreach and scholarly activities to develop effective methods to characterize and quantify landscape dynamics in order to understand and model human impact on different environments and water ecosystem services. I am pleased to be nominated for the position of IALE Vice President.

As IALE VP, I intend to (i) continue and extend my outreach via Webinar Series to reflect Landscape Ecology applications in other developing countries beyond Africa, (ii) help with the establishment and support of local/regional IALE, especially Africa, (iii) assist with organizing regional conferences and workshops (iv) champion the introduction of Landscape Ecology curriculum in countries where it has not been well established as a scholarly subject, and (iv) promote Scholarly publications in the Landscape Ecology journal by African Scientists (and practitioners) thereby enhancing the knowledgebase and application

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of the Landscape Ecology. Finally, I hope to explore the potential for hosting the 2019 IALE WC in Africa (most likely in South Africa or Uganda). African landscapes present unique opportunities to examine landscape ecology principles and integrative tools. As such, bringing the IALE community to Africa will move IALE a step closer to the goal of making Landscape Ecology a scientific basis for sustainable resources management around the world.

Nomination for Vice President:

Andreas Aagaard Christensen
University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Biography:

Andreas Aagaard Christensen is a geographer and landscape ecologist specializing in the study of rural landscape management. He has an MSc in Geography and Cultural Studies and a BA in Psychology. Since 2011 he has been employed at the University of Copenhagen where he is finishing his PhD in landscape ecology. His research concentrates on GIS-assisted analysis of landscape management in western agricultural landscapes. Andreas has been a member of IALE since 2008 and member of the executive committee of Danish IALE since 2009. He served as vice-chairman in Danish IALE from 2009 to 2012 and has been responsible for web-communication and the organization of national conferences.

Position Statement:

As vice-president for the international IALE he wants to:

1. Work towards a closer integration between natural- and social-science perspectives in landscape ecology;
2. Guarantee that IALE-international stays democratic and transparent;
3. Ensure that the heritage of landscape ecology as an integrative and spatially explicit science is made more visible and receives more attention.

Researchers within disciplines such as geography, economics, sociology and anthropology are currently searching for ways to integrate ecological and social approaches in the study of environmental change. The history of landscape-ecological research and

policy-advice has demonstrated how this can be done, but landscape ecology is being overlooked in many circles. Therefore we need to highlight, support and increase attention to the integrative, holistic potentials of Landscape ecology, which is currently receiving less attention than it should, both in academia and among policy-makers.

Nomination for Vice President:

Sima Fakheran
Department of Environmental Sciences, Isfahan University of Technology, Iran.

Biography

Dr. Sima Fakheran is Assistant Professor of Environmental Sciences at Isfahan University of Technology, Iran. She served as one of the main founding members of IALE-Iran, and did an outstanding job in setting up the Iranian regional chapter of IALE and for promoting the science of landscape ecology in Iran. She was elected as President of IALE-Iran in 2012. She was the Scientific Chair of the First International Conference of IALE-Iran in October 2013.

Graduating from two different continents in different languages, environments and cultures; consulting many students, founding and working in several professional organizations; sitting on the board of directors for IALE-Iran and department of environmental sciences at Isfahan University of Technology as a young female professor at a male dominated environment in Iran; provided her with a unique set of skills to listen, understand, solution, plan, develop and deliver. She is passionate about helping organizations to foster development and innovations through international networking, communication and learning.

Position statement

It is an honor for me to be nominated as IALE Vice-President and, if elected, will facilitate international collaborations and foster greater communication among all the Regional Chapters. I believe we should increase our visibility and have leading role not only in academic society but also in policy making, in particular in developing countries and the Middle-East region which needs more consideration and

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supports for solving the environmental disasters and for making the world a better place.

I would like to conduct the following activities for IALE:

- Conduct self-assessment and SWOT analysis among regional chapters for strategy development.
- Organizing Annual meeting/workshops for the EC of the regional chapters to foster networking (at least for the chapters at the same region/continent).
- Design training programs and materials.
- Supporting the new established chapters, Fundraising for the educational activities, and promoting opportunity for everyone.

Nomination for Vice President:

Richard Smithers

Ricardo-AEA Ltd, UK

Richard has been a member of IALE's UK chapter since 2002. He was UK President for five years from 2009-2014 and was an International Council member from 2011-2014. During his time as President, ialeUK developed a mission statement, hosted the IALE European Congress, joined IALE-Europe, organised international conferences and PhD courses annually, and supported early career researchers.

Richard is Ecosystems Knowledge Leader and a Principal Consultant for Ricardo-AEA, an international environmental consultancy. He has over 30-years' experience in the environmental field and has wide-ranging experience of: strategic planning; evidence and policy development; programme, policy and technical monitoring and evaluation; practical forest and land management; community involvement and citizen science. Richard has steered and provided expert input to many high-level projects for UK Government, the European Commission, and others internationally. Among those at the forefront of landscape-scale thinking in the UK for more than 15 years, Richard previously worked for the Woodland Trust, a major UK conservation NGO, in a range of pioneering roles, ultimately as their UK Conservation Adviser.

Position statement

Now is our time, now is our moment: landscape ecology stands centre stage. Increasing realisation that "A healthy, properly functioning natural environment is the foundation of sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal wellbeing" demands integrated landscape-scale action. As such, there is a real need for IALE to promote interest, learning and understanding of landscape ecology, and inter-disciplinary research. Furthermore, I believe IALE should reach out beyond the academic community to engage with policy makers, planners and practitioners whose work needs to be concerned with landscape ecology. Whilst it is important that IALE secures and retains sufficient members to sustain its operations, I believe the focus should be on furthering these aims rather than on increasing membership per se. I see the role of IALE as supporting the work of the chapters, consulting and agreeing with them all decisions that have potential to affect their operations, ensuring that it adds value to all they do, facilitating cooperation between chapters and helping to establish new chapters.

Nomination for Secretary-General:

Thomas C. Edwards

US Geological Survey and Utah State University, USA

Background:

Dr. Edwards currently is a Senior Research Ecologist with the U.S. Geological Survey and Professor in the Department of Wildland Resources, Utah State University. He teaches graduate level classes in The Design and Analysis of Ecological Research, and Topics in Spatial Ecology. Dr. Edwards' current research interests include bioregional conservation planning, and the development of methods for assessing and monitoring biological diversity at large landscape scales. These efforts include (i) a European-based effort of the joint effects of climate and land change on biodiversity in Western Europe, (ii) climate change effects on conifers of western North America, and (iii) impacts of urban disturbance fronts in regions of high urban growth and development. Current efforts involve spatially explicit optimization models examining trade-offs between protection for rare

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plant species and high-value energy extraction in the western United States. He was Co-Chair of the 2009 US IALE Annual Meeting, Snowbird, Utah, and currently serves as the Secretary-General for the IALE International Executive Committee.

Position Statement:

I would like to help IALE become the world-recognized leading society for assessing global change, be it more short-term such as human-induced land change or longer-term as related to changing climates. As an international organization, we already have many research and application nodes for evaluating landscape processes and patterns world-wide, nodes that could be integrated for better global perspectives. Unlike purely ecological or sociological societies, we in IALE also have mixtures of skills that cross ecological, socio-demographic, and economic discipline boundaries. Within the Society, I would seek to foster increased international collaboration for applications of landscape ecology to understanding global change. I would also work to attract young scientists to the society, working to support their research in broadly defined landscape ecology, and ensuring they become the next generations of membership in IALE.

Nomination for Treasurer:

Irene Petrosillo

Dept. of Biological and Environmental Sciences and Technologies, University of Salento Lecce, Italy

Biography

Irene Petrosillo is a landscape ecology researcher at the University of Salento. She teaches Landscape Ecology and Environmental Impact Assessment in the Master Course in Environmental Sciences, and Ecology in the national Graduate School in Archeology at the University of Salento. She studied Biological Sciences at the University of Salento, and obtained her PhD in Basic Ecology in 2005 with a dissertation on tourism-based socio-ecological systems. Irene Petrosillo got international working experience during her visiting research periods in Germany at the Ecology Center of the University of Kiel. Her research interests focus on the spatio-temporal dynamics of socio-ecological landscapes, relationships between

ecosystem services and landscape pattern and processes. More recently, she has been involved in two interesting collaborations: one with archaeologists to analyze medieval socio-ecological landscapes, and the other with the Italian National Agency for New Technology, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development to give a landscape ecology contribution to the spatial configuration renewable energy power plants. Irene Petrosillo is a IALE member, one of the founder members of the Ecosystem Services Partnership, and a member of the Italian Society of Ecology. Her publications include numerous papers on ISI Journals, a book on "The Use of Landscape Sciences for the Assessment of Environmental Security" published by Springer, several book chapters, one edited special issue and numerous reviews for international highly ranked journals.

Position Statement

I really believe that as an active IALE member I have and I want to give my contribution not only to Landscape Ecology research, but also to the Landscape Ecology community dedicating part of my time to aspects of common interest for IALE members. I intend to continue the work undertaken by my predecessor and I want to give value to the results that will be achieved, highlighting the effectiveness of economic resources' management by the Executive Committee, and supporting the Executive Committee in enhancing the activities of the Association and of Regional Chapters. In addition, since I like the integrated approach, I will try to foster the integration among disciplines. Three aspects will characterize my work: organization, transparency of the activities that I will carry forward, and credibility of the results.

Nomination for Treasurer:

Mihai-Sorin Stupariu

University of Bucharest, Romania

Biography

Dr. Mihai-Sorin Stupariu is researcher with the Research Institute of the University of Bucharest (ICUB) and lecturer at the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science. He is founder member of the IALE Romania chapter, member of IALE Romania Council and active member of IALE since 2009. His current

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research interests are related to mathematical models in landscape ecology, with a focus on the connections between terrain variability and landscape patterns. He coordinates interdisciplinary researches exploring the relationship between surface properties at various scales and ecological processes. Mihai-Sorin Stupariu's publications focus both on mathematical topics and on landscape ecological issues.

Position statement:

As a mathematician, I would be pleased to use my number crunching expertise for acting as Treasurer of IALE. I want to: (i) continue the work of the past treasurer; (ii) further develop his approaches concerning financial and membership issues; (iii) promote facilities for young IALE researchers; (iv) encourage interdisciplinary approaches in landscape analyses.

Nomination for Bulletin Editor and Deputy Secretary General:

Benjamin Burkhard

Institute for Natural Resource Conservation, Kiel University, Germany

Biography

I am a geographer and landscape ecologist teaching and working with transdisciplinary human-environmental system analyses in various national and international projects, dealing for example with landscape management in Northern Finland, rice agricultural in Southeast Asia and integrative coastal zone management. I have been working the last 14 years at the Institute for Natural Resource Conservation at Kiel University, Germany. I studied Geography at the Universities of Berlin and Uppsala and received my PhD in Ecology in 2004 and my habilitation in Geography in 2012. My main research focus is on mapping and modelling ecosystem services at different scales. I am the coordinator of the EU Horizon 2020 joint project ESMEALDA about assessment and mapping of ecosystems and their services for policy and decision-making in the EU member states. Furthermore, I am Secretary General of the Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP), lead of the ESP Thematic Working Group "Mapping Ecosystem Services" and since 2011 Bulletin and Web editor and Deputy Secretary General IALE International. I am editorial

board member of the journals Ecosystem Services and Ecological Indicators and active author, guest editor and reviewer for numerous highly ranked scientific journals. I got international working experience during research stays at the University of Salento, Italy, the University of Adelaide, Australia, the University of Arizona, USA, and during regular research and teaching stays in Finland, Austria and China. I am teaching systems analysis in the international MSc curricula in the Kiel School of Sustainability.

Position statement

As an active member in international research networks and as an active member of the current IALE Executive Committee, I want to continue to contribute to the dissemination of relevant landscape-science information and data via the IALE Bulletin and the website. I am convinced that both media have high potential to reach a broad international audience in landscape science and from other disciplines or interests.

ANNUAL IALEUK CONFERENCE SEASCAPE ECOLOGY - CONNECTING LAND, SEA AND SOCIETY

The annual ialeUK conference will be held from 7-8th September 2015 at The University of Edinburgh, with the option to attend a choice of field excursions on 9th September. The conference will appeal to people working in research, policy and practice and will include opportunities for discussion and interaction as well as a social programme in Edinburgh.



Visit iale.org.uk or follow @ialeUK for the latest news. Contact the conference organisers by sending an email to conference2015@iale.org.uk

More information: <http://iale.org.uk/conference2015>

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS OF LANDSCAPE ONLINE

First of all, we would like to thank all contributors of our journal, the authors and reviewers and in particular our financial supporters, the members of IALE-D. Landscape Online is the official journal of IALE-D, the regional chapter of Germany. Landscape Online offers an innovative platform for science-based, practice relevant and high quality multimedia publications at: www.LandscapeOnline.de

All articles published in Landscape Online are published under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>).

Since the relaunch of Landscape Online in 2013, the journal enables the publication of “living” Special Topics. They can be called “living” because the contributions can be published continuously, fast and without deadlines.

So far two Special Topics have been opened:

- The Special Topic “Concepts and Methods for Ecosystem Service Assessments” is the outcome of a collaborative event of the IALE-D Working group “Ecosystem Services” and the “Ecosystem Services Partnership ESP”.
- The Special Topic “Ecology, Resilience and Management of our Landscape” has just been opened as a result from the IALE-D conference 2014 in Bozen, Italy (see following paragraph).

Of course, both Special Topics are open for all colleagues!

We want to offer guest editors the possibility to be in charge of such a Special Topic, for instance to publish outcomes of a research project, a working group or of any IALE regional chapters conference. Of course, all articles of the special topic need to undergo the principal standard publication procedure of Landscape Online (double blind peer review process etc.).

We offer several different article categories besides Research Articles, like Short paper, Review and Ideas Paper. All articles published within a Special Topic

can use an optional discussion module to enable the dialogue among scientists about the articles, methods, research....

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 for Landscape Ecology
 (IALE-D) **iale**

If you are interested to open a Special Topic, our Editorial Management will assist you during all processing steps, like the communication required for the review process, final document editing and typesetting. We ask for a convincing concept of the Special Topic, and at least five guaranteed articles, ensuring to meet the quality requirements of Landscape Online. If you have any questions on this please contact our Editorial Management.

Furthermore, we are looking forward to receive your own research papers that are appropriate to our aims and scope!

On behalf of the Editorial Team of Landscape Online,
 yours truly,

Roman Lenz (Editor-In-Chief)

NEW SPECIAL ISSUE “ECOLOGICAL RESILIENCE AND MANAGEMENT OF OUR LANDSCAPE” IN LANDSCAPE ONLINE

Call for papers

Based on the IALE-D Conference, which took place in Bolzano in October 2014, the Institute for Alpine Environment of EURAC in collaboration with the IALE-D is glad to open a call for papers related to the Conference Topic “Ecology, Resilience and Management of our Landscape”. Interesting presentations, diversified approaches as well as stimulating discussions during the conference confirmed the

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relevance and actuality of this topic. Our landscape, with its diversity of flora, fauna, and ecosystems, is used by humans in multiple ways. Global changes of environmental and socio-economic conditions lead to processes such as intensification of agriculture, abandonment of marginal areas, and urbanization. This leads to a permanent transformation of the landscape and profound changes in ecosystems.

To identify the capacity of ecosystems and landscapes to cope with this development depending on their history and management is an important question for the future. This includes the need to analyze mechanisms and potential of resilience but also the transformation of ecosystems and the possible influence of land use and management on these processes. Thus, in a world increasingly modified by human activities, the conservation of biodiversity is essential as insurance to maintain resilient ecosystems and ensure a sustainable flow of ecosystem goods and services to society.

The concept of resilience has been used for 40 years with considerable confusion connected to its definition and usage. The definition of resilience in general and of spatial resilience in terms of pattern and processes at different scales is an interesting concept, which has to be defined better, measured and integrated within modern landscape ecology. The resilience perspective is increasingly used to understand the dynamics of social-ecological systems. This approach allows to emphasize non-linear dynamics and to describe how such dynamics interact across temporal and spatial scales. Therefore, landscape ecology should and can contribute to the sustainable management and development of landscapes.

The submission procedure for the special issue/topic has been initiated, and we look forward to receiving your interesting contributions.

Layout and structure of the papers

On the Special Issue website you can find information on the layout of the articles and a proposal for their structures. The editors as well as the reviewers and the readers would appreciate if you try to stick to these templates. There is no restriction of page numbers, but to make the papers more readable, the principle length

of the articles should not exceed 25 pages. There are many possibilities to put additional information into different sorts of appendices.

Submission procedure

Please apply the instructions for authors from the journal's online submission. Please choose the option: Special Topic: "Ecology, Resilience and Management of our Landscape". Based on this information, the review procedure will be supported and organized by the guest editors.

Review procedure

Submitted articles which have been assigned to this special issue will initially be sent to the EURAC-team of organizers of the IALE-D2014 which will select 2 reviewers in cooperation with the journal's editorial board. The results of the review process and a possible request for revisions will be sent to the authors when both referees have provided their evaluation. In case of major revisions, the reviewers will also be asked to comment the revised manuscript. To assist the reviewing process, authors can add up to 5 competent and objective potential reviewers to their cover letter.

Of course, this special issue is open for colleagues who did not participate at the IALE-D Annual Conference. If you are planning to write a paper, please provide a short description of your paper in order to prepare the organization of the special edition. We are looking forward to your replies and paper submissions.

More information at: <http://www.landscapeonline.de> or directly at:

<http://www.landscapeonline.de/special-topic/ecology-resilience-and-management-of-our-landscape>

by the Guest Editors
Roberta Bottarin, Uta Schirpke, Ulrike Tappeiner

Landscape Online
open access peer reviewed

COMING ACTIVITIES OF IALE - EUROPE

2nd IALE-Europe thematic workshop: Landscape ecology of urban forests: enhancing ecosystem services

18-19 June 2015, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Urban and suburban landscapes are areas where nature meets culture, areas of work and leisure, understanding and misunderstanding, areas of well-being and areas of conflict. These landscapes stimulate transdisciplinary research from theory to application in the fields of agroforestry, agronomy, geography, forestry, landscape architecture, planning, psychology and sociology. Landscape ecology, working with a wide range of disciplines has a role to develop methods and tools to understand landscape processes and measure ecosystem services for an ever-changing society. The 2015 IALE-Europe Thematic Workshop will explore new ways in understanding, mapping and managing ecosystem services in urban forestry, agroforestry and agriculture. It will consider environmental limits and the future opportunities to enhance ecosystem services. The workshop will highlight the contribution of landscape ecology in this fast developing area. Researchers, practitioners, policy makers, PhD and postdoc students...everyone is very welcome to participate.

More information: www.iale-europe.eu/workshop2015

Contacts: Janez Pirnat (Janez.Pirnat@bf.uni-lj.si) and Jonathan Porter (jonathan@countriescape.org)

3rd IALE-Europe Intensive PhD Course in Landscape Ecology Cultural Landscapes, Sustainability and New Modes of Governance 4-9 October 2015, Copenhagen, Denmark

The education in landscape ecology is put high on the agenda of IALE-Europe, especially the support and training of PhD students. Therefore, we aim to organise, in collaboration with national organizers, an intensive PhD course on a relevant subject in the European context. After the two first editions (Évora 2012 and Manchester 2013), the next course will be organized in Copenhagen (Denmark). The overall theme of the PhD course is "Cultural landscapes,

sustainability and new modes of governance". We will provide a platform to discuss the state-of-art for new governance activities targeted cultural landscapes seen from a landscape ecological approach and shed light on how governance activities might operate: What are the institutional set-ups for such activities? How do they work in practice? What are the outputs in term of new plans, policies and management? What are the outcomes in term of sustainability, landscape changes and local social capital? What are the consequences of such activities in terms of professional skills and competences as well as in terms of continuity in policy objectives and goals?

The format of the course is a combination of lectures and group discussion in an interactive way. To create an open atmosphere and to increase the interaction, the course is limited to a maximum of 25 students. Students should send a paper issuing from their PhD work, which will be improved through discussions with both lecturers and other students. The course is open to PhD students from all over the world in different stages of their PhD research. The course will start with a welcome event, followed by a full day seminar to be held at Department of Geoscience and Natural Resource Management, University of Copenhagen (Frederiksberg Campus). The following days (6th-9th October) will take place in a rural environment in Jutland at Thyregod Conference Centre. This location is already studied and well known by the organizing committee and will form the departure for excursions and meetings with a farm community engaged in collaborative landscape planning. Common transport from Copenhagen to Jutland will be arranged. The participants are required to attend the entire course.

Selection of participants is based on abstracts to be sent in by **June 1st**. The course is a joint organization of IALE-Europe and the Department of Geoscience and Natural Resource Management (IGN), University of Copenhagen and is sponsored by IALE International, IALE-Europe and University of Copenhagen. For more information (detailed description, deadlines and application form) can be found on the website of IALE-Europe:

www.iale-europe.eu/phd2015

Lone Søderkvist Kristensen (lokr@ign.ku.dk)

Veerle Van Eetvelde (veerle.vaneetvelde@UGent.be)

CISERN 4 - FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN THE NEOTROPICS: FROM RESEARCH TO ACTION

Mar del Plata, Argentine, from 30 September - 3 October 2015

Objectives:

The International Congress for Ecosystem Services in the Neotropics aims to consolidate as a forum for interaction and discussion about ecosystem services research and management in Latin America and the Caribbean. Through its various modalities of interaction (symposia, forums, conferences), the Congress will cover conceptual, methodological and applied aspects across case studies from all over the region. In this fourth edition, interactions among academia, decision-makers and other stakeholders will be promoted in order to contribute to ecosystem services research and the formulation of public policies for sustainable development.

Important Dates:

Abstract submission deadline: 31st March 2015

Communication of results: 1st June 2015

Website: <http://www.geap.com.ar/cisen4/en/home>

CONCEPTS, METHODS AND TOOLS TO ENGAGE IN PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH AND GOVERNANCE PROCESSES -SUMMER SCHOOL IN LISBON

The Summer School “Concepts, methods and tools to engage in participatory research and governance processes” will be held from 13th to 17th July 2015, in Portugal, at the School of Economics & Management from the University of Lisbon. The program is divided in 8 blocks which will take place during the five days, from 9:30 to 17:30.

Tutorials will be given by:

- Marta Varanda and Sofia Bento - ISEG/University of Lisbon in Portugal
- Jennifer Hauck - Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ in Germany.
- Mathieu Dionnet – Lisode, Montpellier, France

All those interested in developing and improving skills, theoretical and methodological knowledge of participatory methods for both governance and research are encouraged to apply by submitting a registration form and a motivation letter.

Target audience

All those interested in developing and improving skills, theoretical and methodological knowledge of participatory methods for both governance and research.

Admission criteria

- Bachelor/ 1st cycle or Master degree
- Fluency in spoken English
- Motivation letter
- The number of participants is limited to 20

Tuition fee

500 €, to be paid after notification of acceptance. Participants are responsible for travelling, lodging and meal expenses



Course Location: ISEG/University of Lisbon,
<http://aquila5.iseg.ulisboa.pt/aquila/instituicao/ISEG>

Registration details

Application form available at

<http://pascal.iseg.utl.pt/~socius/formacao/index.shtml>

The deadline for application is the 15th May by email to summerschool2015@socius.iseg.ulisboa.pt
Participants will be notified of acceptance by the 29th May

For further information please contact
summerschool2015@socius.iseg.ulisboa.pt

8TH WORLD ESP CONFERENCE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES FOR NATURE, PEOPLE AND PROSPERITY

South Africa, from 9-13 November 2015

The conference will pay special attention to the public and private sector dialogue on how the ecosystem services concept can be used to support conservation, improve livelihoods and engage the business community.



We especially encourage delegates from businesses to attend the ESP conference in order to discuss challenges and opportunities in using the concept of ecosystem services to achieve conservation and sustainable use of our 'natural capital' within a market-context. The conference will provide an excellent platform to engage with experts who can generate solutions to these challenges and start making a difference in practice.

The conference will be held in South Africa from 9-13 November 2015 and is hosted at a very special location: Spier Wine farm and Conference Centre in Stellenbosch.

Soon you can upload your abstract, register for the conference, and see the (provisional) program on the Conference website.

Session proposals

The call for session proposals is now open. You can submit your session proposal **until April 1**. We will review your session proposal and inform you about the acceptance of the session before April 15.

Call for abstracts

We plan to open the call for abstracts **April 15**, after we have reviewed all session proposals. You will be able to upload your abstract through an online system

on the Conference website. The call for abstracts will close **June 15**. The call for posters will close July 15. All abstract submitters will be informed about their acceptance before August 1.

Registration

Registration will be possible from **April 1** onwards. Early Bird registration will close **August 15**. We offer several ways of online payment: through Paypal, credit card, IDEAL and an invoice.

Find more information and regular updates on the Conference website: www.esconference.org

by **Benjamin Burkhard (ESP Secretary)**

12TH EDGM CONFERENCE

Mainz, Germany, from 22-27 May 2015

The registration page for the 12th European Dry Grassland Meeting (EDGM) from Population Biology to Community Ecology is open.

A limited number of IAVS travel grants are available for persons with financial constraints (for details, see circular). As usual, EDGG plans to prepare several Special Features in international journals based on contributions from the conference.



Note that the general deadline for registration and abstract submission is **31 March**, but 15 February if you wish to apply for a travel grant.

Additional information can be found at: http://www.edgg.org/edgg_meeting_2015.html

by the **Local Organizing Committee Thomas Becker, (University of Trier), Ute Becker (University of Mainz) and the EDGG EC and EDGM Co-ordinator Mike Vrahnakis and Péter Török (EDGG Contact Office)**

CLAIM LANDSCAPE POLICY KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM LAUNCHED

As a result of the European research project CLAIM (Supporting the role of the Common agricultural policy in Landscape valorisation: Improving the knowledge base of the contribution of landscape Management to the rural economy, 2012-2014), an online platform has been developed to provide a knowledge base supporting policy design towards an improved landscape management contributing to the production of added value for society and economy in rural areas.



The objective of the CLAIM knowledge platform is to provide an open and user-friendly access to policy-relevant theoretical knowledge and to case study evidence on cause-effect-relationships between policy and governance, the landscape and its related provision of ecosystem services and values and their relevance for regional competitiveness and social welfare. Target groups of the knowledge platform are policy makers at European level, stakeholders and decision makers at the regional level as well as academia dealing with landscape and rural development.

The empirical basis is represented by 25 individual research studies from nine different regions in Austria, Bulgaria, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Italy, Poland, Spain and Turkey, including the Naturpark Märkische Schweiz, Brandenburg/Germany. The broad variety of regional settings, thematic perspectives and methodological approaches complement to a comprehensive picture.

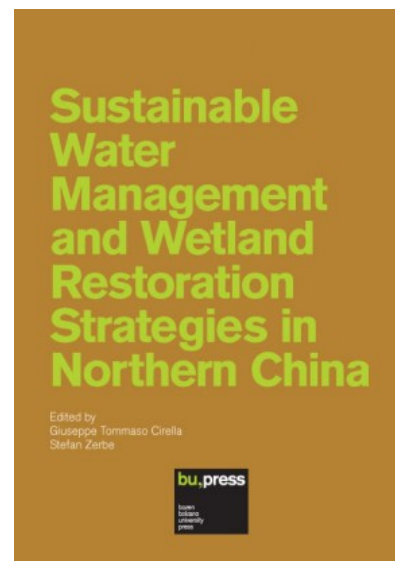
The CLAIM knowledge platform is accessible at <http://project2.zalf.de/claimknowledgeplatform>

by **Annette Piorr (Leibniz-Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research ZALF Müncheberg, Germany)**

SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT AND WETLAND RESTORATION STRATEGIES IN NORTHERN CHINA

This book outlines the results of a research project in northern China, where an international and interdisciplinary team of researchers from Italy, Germany and China has applied a broad range of methodology in order to answer basic and applied research questions of wetland ecology and management and derive comprehensive recommendations for sustainable water management and wetland restoration.

The research primarily focused on ecosystem services, e.g. the purification of water and biomass production. In particular, the ecosystem function and use of reed (*Phragmites australis*) and the perception as well as the value of water as a resource for Central Asia's multicultural societies was analysed. This book is written for researchers, students in higher education and practitioners.



Website:

<http://bupress.unibz.it/en/sustainable-water-management-and-wetland-restoration-strategies-in-northern-china.html>

by **Stefan Zerbe (Free University Bozen, Italy)**

IALE-D ANNUAL CONFERENCE

from October 20-23, 2015 Bonn, Germany

Ecosystem Services to ensure Sustainable Rural Development and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources

Conference topic:

Is the ecosystem service (ES) concept ready for practice? The implementation of the ES concept in landscape ecology and landscape planning is the focus of this year's meeting of IALE-D (German IALE Chapter). We target presentations on practical applications of the ES concept in regional and rural development, in the implementation of the EU biodiversity strategy and in landscape planning. We invite presentations addressing the question how to make use of ES in different land use sectors, such as agriculture, forestry and urban systems. Lessons learnt from case studies and recommendations for better introducing the ES concept at different political scales and decision making levels are of particular interest.

Conference contributions (abstracts, posters and presentations) are accepted both in German and in English. There will be two special sessions in the conference: the IALE Award ceremony and the IALE-D General Assembly Meeting.

Website: <http://ialed-jahrestagung.eli-web.com>

9TH IALE WORLD CONGRESS

July 5-10, 2015 / Portland, Oregon USA

Registration is open!

The 2015 World Congress is a joint meeting between the International Association of Landscape Ecology World Congress (WC) and the U.S. Chapter of IALE (US-IALE), and will be held at the Hilton Portland & Executive Tower in Portland, Oregon, July 5 - 10, 2015. Make plans now to attend! Conference registration is open; register by May 22, 2015 to save money!

Register by May 22 for a reduced rate:

<http://www.ialeworldcongress.org/registration.html>

Bulletin Deadline

Vol. 33 no.2: June 07, 2015

PLEASE: Send your contributions to the
Bulletin Editor Benjamin Burkhard
bburkhard@ecology.uni-kiel.de

The IALE Bulletin is distributed several times a year to the members of IALE. IALE - the International Association for Landscape Ecology was founded in 1982 to promote communication between scientists, planners and interdisciplinary scientific research. IALE Executive Committee:

President: Felix Kienast 2011-2015, Swiss Federal Institute of Forest, Snow and Landscape Research, CH-8903 Birmensdorf, Switzerland, felix.kienast@wsl.ch; **Secretary General:** Thomas C. Edwards 2011-2015, 5230 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322-5230, USA, t.edwards@nr.usu.edu; **Treasurer:** Ralf-Uwe Syrbe 2011-2015, Tornaer Str. 72, 01239 Dresden, Germany, syrbe@iale.de; **Past President:** K. Bruce Jones 2007-2011, Desert Research Institute, 755 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA, crocodylus@aol.com; **Vice Presidents and their role in the Executive Committee:** Robert M. Scheller 2013-2017 (North America), Portland State University, P.O. Box 751, Portland, OR 97207 USA, rmschell@pdx.edu; Lidong Chen 2013-2017 (Asia), Chinese Academy of Sciences, 18 Shuangqing Road, Haidian District, Beijing, 100085, China, liding@rcees.ac.cn; Giovanni Zurlini 2011-2015 (Europe), Salento University, via Predappio-Rapolla 4, 73100 Lecce, Italy, giovanni.zurlini@unisalento.it; Jean-Paul Metzger 2011-2015 (South and Central America), Universidade de São Paulo, Rua do Matão, travessa 14, Cidade Universitária, 05508-900 São Paulo, Brazil, jpm@ib.usp.br; **Bulletin Editor and Deputy Secretary General:** Benjamin Burkhard 2011-2015, Christian Albrechts University Kiel, Olshausenstr. 40, 24098 Kiel, Germany, bburkhard@ecology.uni-kiel.de; **Chairman of Council:** Xiuzhen Li 2011-2015, East China Normal University, Shanghai 200062, China, lixz@iae.ac.cn; **Publicity Officer:** Emilio Padoa-Schioppa, University di Milano-Bicocca, p.za Della Scienza 1, 20126 Milano, Italy; emilio.padoaschioppa@unimib.it.

IALE International on the Internet: IALE International: www.landscape-ecology.org